

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ATHENS 02210 181616Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 SS-15 NSCE-00 PM-05
SP-02 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 INRE-00 VO-05 HA-05
FBIE-00 CA-01 SY-05 MCT-01 SSO-00 /082 W
-----046394 181624Z /14/72/4

O 171354Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4992
INS CO WASHDC IMMEDIATE
INS JFK NYC IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PANAMA IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MADRID IMMEDIATE

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TEXT)

EO 11652: NA
TAGS: CVIS, IZ, SREF
SUBJ: IRAQI CITIZENS ATTEMPT TRAVEL TO U.S.

1. AMEMBASSY ATHENS HAS LEARNED THAT GROUP OF 41 IRAQUIS
ENTERED GREECE VIA MIDDLE EAST AIRLINES FLT. 251 ON 11
MARCH. MMST WERE MEMBERS OF PREVIOUS GROUP WHICH WAS
TURNED BACK AT MADRID EARLY FEBRUARY 78 AND EVENTUALLY
REACHED BEIRUT.

2. GROUP ENTERED WITHOUT GREEK VIASAS OR U.S. VISAS AVOW-
EDLY EN ROUTE PANAMA USING PANAMA VISAS WHICH WERE
PREVIOUSLY OBTAINED 30-31 JANUARY 78 IN ATHENS. GROUP
UNDER STRICT TRAVEL CONTROL WITH PASSPORTS CURRENTLY
HELD BY GREEK AIRPORT OFFICIALS. EMBASSY OBTAINED PPT.
NOS., NAMES, DPOBS OF MEMBERS.

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3. AT THIS POINT WE ARE NOT SURE WHETHER GREEK OFFICIALS
WILL PERMIT GROUP TO REMAIN LONGER OR INSIST ON THEIR
EARLY DEPARTURE. TRAVEL AGENCY ASSISTING GROUP HAS TOLD
AIRPORT OFFICIALS THAT IT IS REQUESTING U.S. VISAS FOR
TANSIT VIA TWA TO PANAMA. EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED NO VISA
APPLICATION BUT INFORMED GREEK OFFICIALS THAT WE WOULD
BE HAPPY TO INTERVIEW GROUP MEMBERS SHOULD THEY CHOOSE

TO APPLY.

4. ALTHOUGH AIRLINES IN ATHENS ARE WELL AWARE IF U.S. TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS CONCERNING IRAQIS, IT IS NOT IMPOS-
SIBLE THAT SOME AIRLINE WILL COOPERATE AND BOARD GROUP
FOR TRANSFER ELSEWHERE TO U.S. BOUND FLIGHT. MOST LIKELY
PROSPECT, HOWEVER, IS GROUP'S RETURN TO LEBANON. AIRPORT
OFFICIALS HAVE ASSURED EMBASSY THAT THEY WILL NOTIFY
US OF GROUP'S DEPARTURE.

MCCLOSKEY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Film Number: D780128-0870, D780119-0648
Format: TEL
From: ATHENS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780357/aaaabvut.tel
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